

## **E-Teacher Scholarship Program:**

### **Methods Course I: Survey of Best Practices in TESOL (Teaching of English to Speakers of Other Languages)**

Offered by the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, English Language Center

The Office of English Language Programs of the U.S. State Department is offering an online teacher training course on “Teaching Critical Thinking” for eligible candidates. The course will introduce the most recent English language teaching methods and techniques, offer the opportunity to engage in an innovative distance-learning program that employs the latest in modern technology, and provide direct access to U.S. experts with whom participants might not normally have the opportunity to interact.

#### **Course Description**

This course is designed to provide participants with current methodologies associated with teaching English language learners (ELLs) of different ages in various learning contexts. Participants will discuss and practice a wide variety of strategies and techniques for teaching English to speakers of other languages (TESOL). While exploring best practices for teaching listening, speaking, reading, writing, grammar, vocabulary, and pronunciation, participants will learn how to create an effective and communicative language classroom for all ELLs. In addition, participants will examine what best practices means in the context of teaching English in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, where English is an international language and how the use of English incorporates modern technologies. This 10-week course will be offered in the spring of 2010.

#### **Requirements**

Candidates should be highly motivated teachers, teacher trainers or ministry officials who are both dedicated to their own professional development and willing to share their knowledge with colleagues. They should be able to do academic work at a U.S. university (an advanced level of reading and writing, roughly equivalent to a TOEFL score of 525) and understand technical terms in English relating to computers and the Internet. Candidates should also have regular access to the Internet, be able to navigate in Windows and create a Word document, be familiar with the Internet and web browsers, and be able to type in English well enough to perform on-line tasks in real-time and to submit written assignments in a timely manner.

*Candidates will be nominated by American embassies and selected in a competitive process. Interested candidates should contact the Regional English Language Officer or Cultural Affairs Officer at the nearest American embassy.*